



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

HISTORICAL NOTES AND QUERIES.

"THE TRAPANNED MAIDEN."

The following ballad was copied by Mrs. Alice Morse Earle, the well-known writer, from a collection of old Black Letter Ballads in the British Museum, and sent us for publication. It is entitled "The Trapanned Maiden or the Distressed Damsel." As a picture of the condition of the indented servant of Colonial Virginia, it will be recognized by all familiar with the subject as full of the exaggerations of poetical license. There was a well-known law in that age against all white women being forced to work in the field, unless of the most abandoned character. To those who wish to know the true condition of the servants at that time, Bruce's "*Economic History of Virginia in the Seventeenth Century*," Chapters IX and X, and Ballagh's "*White Servitude in Virginia*," are recommended. The ballad, while of no real historical value, is of interest in itself:

The Girl was cunningly trapan'd,
Sent to Virginny from England;
Where she doth Hardship undergo,
There is no cure, it must be so;
But if she lives to cross the main,
She vows she'll ne'er go there again.

Give ear unto a Maid
That lately was betray'd,
And sent into Virginny, O:
In brief I shall declare,
What I have suffered there,
When that I was weary, O.

When that first I came
To this land of Fame,
Which is called Virginny, O:
The Axe and the Hoe
Have wrought my overthrow,
When that I was weary, O.

Five years served I
Under Master Guy,
In the land of Virginny, O:
Which made me for to know
Sorrow, Grief, and Woe,
When that I was weary, O.

When my Dame says, Go,
Then must I do so,
In the land of Virginny, O:
When she sits at meat
Then I have none to eat,
When that I was weary, O.

The cloathes that I brought in,
They are worn very thin,
In the land of Virginny, O:
Which makes me for to say
Alas! and well-a-day,
When that I was weary, O.

Instead of Beds of Ease,
To lye down when I please,
In the land of Virginny, O:
Upon a bed of straw,
I lay down full of woe,
When that I was weary, O.

Then the Spider, she
Daily waits on me,
In the land of Virginny, O:
Round about my bed
She spins her tender web,
When that I was weary, O.

So soon as it is day,
To work I must away,
In the land of Virginny, O:
Then my Dame she knocks
With her tinder box,
When that I was weary, O.

I have played my part
Both at Plow and Cart,
In the land of Virginny, O:
Billats from the Wood,
Upon my back they load,
When that I was weary, O.

Instead of drinking Beer,
I drink the waters clear,
In the land of Virginny, O:
Which makes me pale and wan,
Do all that e'er I can,
When that I was weary, O.

If my Dame says, Go,
 I dare not say no,
 In the land of Virginny, O:
 The water from the spring
 Upon my head I bring,
 When that I was weary, O.

When the Mill doth stand,
 I'm ready at command,
 In the land of Virginny, O:
 The Mortar for to make,
 Which made my heart to ake,
 When that I was weary, O.

When the child doth cry,
 I must sing, By-a-by,
 In the land of Virginny, O:
 No rest that I can have
 Whilst I am here a slave,
 When that I weary, O.

A thousand Woes beside,
 That I do here abide,
 In the land of Virginny, O:
 In misery I spend
 My time that hath no end,
 When that I was weary, O.

Then let Maids beware,
 All by my ill-fare,
 In the land of Virginny, O:
 Be sure thou stay at home,
 For if you do here come,
 You will all be weary, O.

But if it be my chance,
 Homeward to advance,
 From the land of Virginny, O:
 If that I once more
 Land on English shore,
 I'll no more be weary, O.

COLONIAL RECORDS OF MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, AND BURIALS.

(Contributed by Hon. J. H. Brown.)

Every act of the Grand Assembly (and they are numerous) from 1631 to 1748, and subsequently, required a record, under oath and penalty,

to be made and kept of all births, marriages, baptisms, and burials in each county. In some the preamble set forth the object, the evils, and the remedy, and declared the record so made should be and *remain a record forever*.

Such was the act of 1659—1 *Hen. St.*, page 542—entitled “An act to record all marriages, births, and burials.” “Whereas many differences arise about the age of orphans, & enquiries are often made for persons imported into the colony, of whose death no positive certificate can be granted for want of *register*. Be it therefore enacted—That every parish shall well & truly & plainly record & set down in a *book* provided for the purpose, all *marriages*, deaths & births, that shall happen within the parish. And in the month of March in every year, the person appointed by the parish so to do, shall make true certificate into the clerke of every county, to the intent the same may *there remain on record forever*.” By act of 1661—2 *Hen. St.*, page 54—the above act of 1659 was in substance re-enacted and continued.

By act of 1705—3 *Hen. St.*, page 445—lists of marriage licenses were required to be returned by the *clerk* of each county court to the Governor, annually, in October, and also to deliver to the sheriff the account of the Governor’s fees for said licenses, to be collected for the Governor.

By proclamation of 1712—4 *Hen. St.*, page 550—Governor Spotswood enforced the execution of those acts, requiring it read in all the churches, and the justices to present and prosecute all *ministers, clerks*, and masters who were delinquent in its execution.

By act of 1713—4 *Hen. St.*, page 42—“Whereas it is judged convenient, that an *exact & regular account* of all persons, who shall be *born*, christened, or buried in this colony, should be kept,” &c. It was required that the *minister* of every parish should keep a *fair* and *exact* register of all births and deaths and baptisms within his parish. The act to be read publicly in all the churches twice a year.

By act of 1748—6 *Hen. St.*, page 84—every clerk of a county court shall, in October, annually, deliver to the Governor, &c., a true list of all marriage licenses by him issued, &c.

MILITARY PUNISHMENTS.

I am anxious to obtain examples and accounts of military punishments in Colonial and Revolutionary times, such as “riding the wooden horse,” being tied to a wheelbarrow, and wearing the “drunkard’s cloak.” The latter, known also as the “barrel shirt,” consisted of a barrel with a hole cut in the head at one end, through which the offender’s head was thrust. I have heard that the latter mode of punishment was often employed in camp in our Civil War. Also further examples of punishment of being “dragged at a Boat’s Stern” (page 363, April number *Virginia Magazine*); also of public penance as shown on page 27, July number *Virginia Magazine*. Also examples of the use of the *bilboes*.

Any references to these modes of punishment, from church, court, military, or town records, or any suggestions where information may be found will be gratefully received.

ALICE MORSE EARLE.

242 Henry St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

CLAIBORNE.

(Contributed by J. E. Cross.)

It may interest your California correspondent and others to learn that by heraldic rules the eldest, or senior line of a family, *alone*, has the right to bear and use the paternal coat, unquartered, or undifferenced.

In this family it should be so borne by the eldest brother of the late General Patrick Ronayne Cleburne, C. T. A., and by him only. He is the head and representative of the name.

2. As Secretary William Clayborne (or Cleyborne, as the name is spelled in his commission A. D. 1625) was a younger son of this house, he probably used the quartered coat, as tricked in the "Visitations of Westmoreland" in the London College of Arms.

3. Crests and mottoes being non-essential parts of coat armour, may be varied or assumed at the pleasure of the bearer. Punning mottoes, names, or arms, was a silly fad of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

The sentence is "Losse clibbor na sceame"—a clumsy, ungrammatical equivalent for sticking, or cleaving, to what is praiseworthy, rather than to what others considered shameful. No doubt the stubborn old Secretary thought it more praiseworthy to turn Puritan, to get his way, rather than to be satisfied with the shameful Royalist effort to silence his grievances with the offices of Treasurer and Secretary of State.

4. Esten Cooke's sketch was more novelistic than historic, though founded on his own accurate research, or the recent views of Harrison, of Maryland, Lemuel Chester, Sainsbury, Sidney Howard Gay, and others.

GENEALOGICAL NOTE AS TO THE SPENCER FAMILY.

Extract from a letter dated Berkeley, May 12, 1780, from John Aviss to Robert Carter, of Nomini:

"* * an affair that was transacted between your Grand Father the Honble. Robert Carter, and Nicholas Spencer Esqr., one of my Great Uncles, upwards of Seventy years ago. Nicholas Spencer Esqr. sold to your Grand Father a Large Tract of Land whereon you now live, in order to Raise Money to Prosecute a Suit in England for an Estate his Brother The Honble. William Spencer had Mortgaged when he was Elected Member of Parliament for the County of Bedford, and which

he fell Heir too. Nicholas Spencer Esq'r went home to England. * * my Unkle Nicholas dying in a short time after he went home, My Grand Father John Spencer fell Heir to his Estate."

The undersigned is in possession of this letter.

CHARLES P. KEITH.

THE BERMUDIANS.

The following is taken from a Norfolk paper published early in the present century:

The late cyclone was one of the most severe on record. It destroyed many villages in Jamaica, and desolated whole parishes in Bermuda. We cannot help feeling for the Bermudians, for they are our near kindred. Bermuda Street, in our city, was settled by emigrants from those islands, who fled from the tyranny of one of the Governors. These men were oppressed in their island-home, and determined to be free. They were not permitted by the tyrant to leave; but they found a vessel on the coral reefs, that had been wrecked there and abandoned. They patched the wreck up as best they could, and were compelled to do this by stealth at night. In the darkness they got aboard their little craft, crowded down with passengers. The schooner started, rigged with a juremast made of a spar, and furnished with a sail made of the bed-clothing of the refugees; the rudder was simply a wide board shaped like a paddle, lashed to the stern, and they had no compass. They steered for the broad Continent, and luckily made the capes of Virginia. They entered the wide Elizabeth, ran up the river, and into what is now Newton's creek. They ran their leaky craft ashore back of Captain Cornick's garden, in a place that in our youth was still called Tuckertown, after one of the great Bermuda families, a member of which settled on that spot.

The rest of the refugees settled along the creek on what is now Bermuda Street. On it were built the dwellings of the Tuckers, the Cornicks, the Steeds, the Jeffreys, the De Butts, the Ives', the Archers, the Probys, the Robinsons, the Ramsays, and several other of our old families. Many of these names still exist in our city, in Portsmouth, and in the neighboring counties.